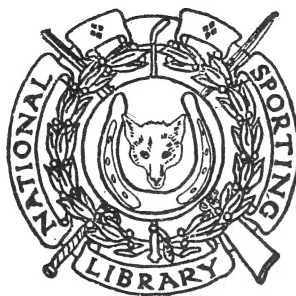


NATIONAL SPORTING LIBRARY

NEWS



LETTER

A Research Center for Turf and Field Sports,
their History and Social Significance

Middleburg, Virginia 22117

December 1976

Nancy Cole, Editor Vol. III, No. 1

OPPORTUNITIES IN THE NATIONAL SPORTING LIBRARY FOR REVISION OF THE FOUNDATION VOLUMES OF AMERICAN AND BRITISH THOROUGHBRED STUD BOOKS

By Alexander Mackay-Smith
Chairman of the Board

C. M. PRIOR

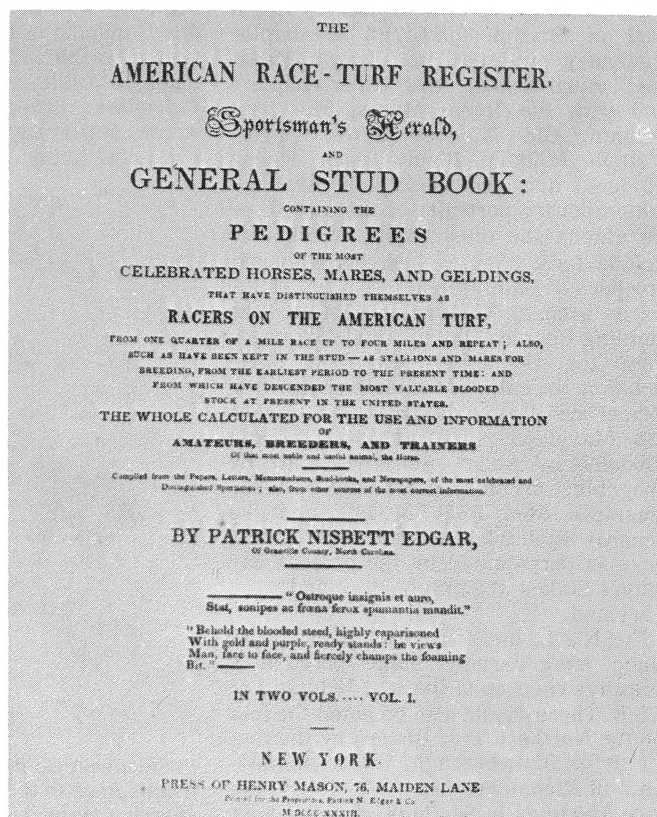
In 1791 James Weatherby published in London *An Introduction to a General Stud Book*, a Stud Book of Thoroughbred horse pedigrees, this being the first published stud book of any breed anywhere. In compiling his book Mr. Weatherby was able to draw on the previously published English "Racing Calendars", containing not only race results, but also much pedigree information beside. The first of these Calendars was the work of John Cheny who brought them out annually from 1727 to 1750. His successors included J. Jackson (1748-1783), John Pond (1751-1757), Reginald Heber (1751-1768), Willaim Tuting and Thomas Fawconer (1769-1775), B. Walker (1769-1770), James Weatherby (1773-1791 ff), and William Pick (1786-1791 ff). Jackson and Pick also included races at York from 1709.

Revised editions of Volume I of the English General Stud Book were published in 1800, 1803, 1814, 1827, 1858, and 1891, this last, the centenary edition, benefiting from the great 1886 three volume work by J.P. Hore *History of New Market and Annals of the Turf...to the end of the seventeenth century*. These and later volumes have always been recognised as official by the British Jockey Club, even though the General Stud Book remains the property of Messrs. Weatherby.

In 1873 Sanders D. Bruce published in New York Vol. I (A to L) and Vol. II (M to Z) of the *American Stud Book*, followed by Vols. III to VI, all of which were acquired and made official by the (American) Jockey Club in 1896. There have thus been no revisions of the foundation volumes of the General Stud Book since 1891 (85 years) or of the American Stud Book since 1873 (103 years), even though most of the research required has been available for more than half a century.

The National Sporting Library of Middleburg, Virginia, fortunately has available, either through ownership or on loan, all the basic texts on which revisions of the foundations volumes of the two stud books will have to be based. It has a full set of the General Stud Book. Although its run of the English Racing Calendars is complete only from 1751, it has William Pick's *Turf Register...containing the Pedigrees and Performances of all the Horses, Mares and Geldings that have appeared upon the British and Irish Turf*, Volume I (1803) from (1709) to 1763 and Vol. II (1805) from 1764 to 1772. Even more importantly, it has *Baily's Racing Register from the Earliest Record to the close of the Year 1842*, London, 1845, Vol. I (1709-1800), Vol. II (1801-1830) and Vol. III (1831-1842). Vol. I contains 986 pages of which the last 135 are devoted to an invaluable alphabetical name index of the horses mentioned in the preceeding pages. The N.S.L. also has the three volumes of J.P. Hore's *History of Newmarket* (1886) mentioned above and a book post-dating the 1891 revision of G.S.B. Vol. I (1891) namely *Ye Olde New-Markett Calendar of Matches, Results, and Programs*, From 1619 to 1791, London, 1892.

In the October, 1904, issue of "Baily's Magazine" appeared an article "The Agnes Family of Racehorses" by C. M. Prior, which initiated a type of early Thoroughbred pedigree research far more meticulous and well-organized than any which had preceeded it. The N.S.L. has *Stud Book Lore*, a collection of the Prior articles (published 1951) among which are "Gray Thoroughbred Horses", descended from the 17th century Alcock Arabian and Brownlow Turk ("Baily's Magazine", March 1905); "The First Races at York", 1709 and 1710 ("Badminton Magazine", December, 1916); "Anne Clifford, Countess of Pembroke", born 1589 (The Field, April 6, 1918); "The Gimcrack Dinner" (Gimcrack foaled 1760), (The Times, November 29, 1922). In 1926 there appeared his *History of the Racing Calednar and Stud Book*. From their Inception in the Eighteenth Century, with Observations on some of the Occurrences noted therein.



Mr. Prior's great contribution to Thoroughbred history and to Stud Book revision rests, however, on his remarkable discoveries of early Stud Book and racing records in contemporary manuscripts, discoveries which proved to be important for early pedigrees in America as well as in Britain.

His **Early Records of the Thoroughbred Horse** (1924) contain Mr. Cuthbert Routh's Stud Book, 1716-1752; the Duke of Ancaster's Stud Book, 1719-1737; the 2nd Duke of Newcastle's Stud Book, 1711-1712; the 2nd Duke of Devonshire's Trial Book, 1721-1765; and Sir Edward O'Brien's Letters, 1758-1759. Other sections deal with the Belsay Castle Sales of Sir William Middleton, 1757, 1763; with the Kiplingcoates Races, 1619; with the importation of Arabian horses by Charles II; and with the horses, the Byerley Turk (c. 1680), the Curwen Bay Barb (c. 1690), Merlin (1694) and Bay Peg (c. 1695). In 1931 Prior wrote for "The Field", October 24th, an article on the Third Duke of Grafton's Trial Book, 1776-1811. Prior's greatest and last work, published 1935 by "Horse and Hound", was **The Royal Studs of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries (1576-1650) Together with a Reproduction of the Second Earl of Godolphin's Stud-book (1733-1763) and sundry other papers relating to the Thoroughbred Horse**. The first section includes lists of the horses of the Royal Studs at Malmesbury and Tutbury drawn by the Italian Stud Master, Prospero d'Osma in 1576, plus later lists at Malmesbury in 1596, 1598, 1620, 1628; at Tutbury in 1598, 1619, 1624, 1628, 1649; and at Hampton Court in 1620, 1623. In addition to the Godolphin material there are Mr. Edward Coke's Stud, 1732-1733; the Fifth Earl of Antrim's Stud, c. 1741-1756; and the Diary and Letters of John Hervey, First Earl of Bristol, 1688-1710, a chapter previously published in "Baily's Magazine", April & May, 1918. Other chapters deal with the Royal Mares, Markham Arabian, Old Morocco Mare, Darley Arabian, Milbury, Bonny Black, Flying Childers, and the Godolphin Arabian. Contemporary portraits of the last three are among the illustrations, which also include facsimiles of 4 leaves from the Prospero d'Osma report; of a list of the mares bred at Tutbury in 1624 to "the Ambling Courser Digby"; and two pages from the Godolphin MS Stud Book, including the entry of the birth on April 30, 1745, of the filly "sold (1750) to Mr. Tasker into Maryland", the unbeaten Selima (Godolphin Arabian - Shireborn mare by Hobgoblin) an entry correcting both the American Stud Book of 1873 and the General Stud Book of 1891. The mare's name is perpetuated by the present day Selima Stakes at Laurel, Maryland.

The N.S.L. owns the four Prior books which have largely made possible a definitive revision of the 1891 Volume I of A.S.B. There should also be noted the four volume **Northern Turf History** by the late J. Fairfax-Blakeborough, Vol. I, **Hambleton and Richmond**, 1948; Vol. II **Extinct Race Meetings in Scotland, Cumberland, Westmorland, Durham, Northumberland,**

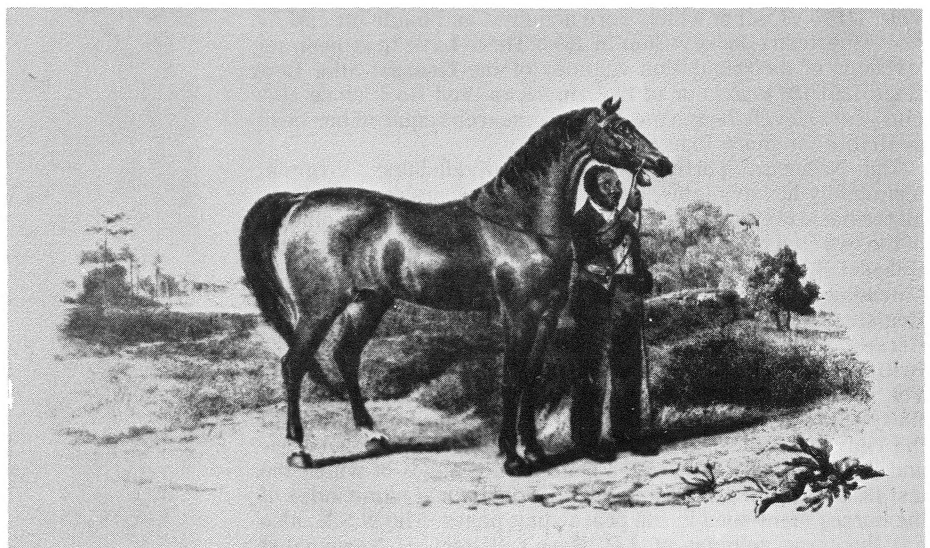
Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Lincolnshire, 1949; Vol. III **York and Doncaster Races**, 1950; Vol. IV, **History of Horse Racing in Scotland**, 1973, which the Library also has. Finally there are a number of articles on the subject by the contemporary British scholar. P.R. Saward.

AMERICAN STUD BOOK REVISION

As noted above, whereas Vol. I of the **General Stud Book** went through eight published revisions from 1791 to 1891, the two foundation volumes of the **American Stud Book**, Vols. I & II published in 1873, have never been revised. The National Sporting Library also has the necessary texts on which to base such a revision. It has a complete set of the **American Stud Book**. It also has a copy of the scarce **American Race-Turf General Stud Book: Containing the Pedigrees of the Most Celebrated Horses, Mares and Gelding, That Have Distinguished Themselves as Racers on the American Turf, From One Quarter of a Mile Races up to Four Miles and Repeat...** by Patrick Nisbett Edgar, of Granville County North Carolina...New York, Press of Henry Mason, 1833. Edgar was an itinerant Irishman, who left his native Dublin about 1807, reputedly because he had killed the family gardner, and who spent the rest of his life (he died in 1857) as the perpetual long term guest of the major planters of the "Old Race Horse Region", the counties of the Roanoke Valley on either side of the Virginia-North Carolina border, going from house to house. In 1822, along with Theophilus Feild, he had been enlisted by James J. Harrison of Brunswick County, Virginia, in an American Stud Book project, and in 1826, on Feild's death, was given the whole responsibility. Much of Edgar's source material was first class. In 1828 he met John Randolph of Roanoke and so secured access to the latter's turf library which included a full set of the **English Racing Calendars**. (There was, of course, no American Racing Calendar). He also had available many pedigrees published in

two periodicals founded and edited by John Stuart Skinner of Baltimore, the "American Farmer" in 1819, and the "American Turf Register & Sporting Magazine" in 1829. Contributors included George Washington Jeffreys (1797-1848) of Person County, North Carolina, who from 1826 to 1828 collated the files of the "Virginia Gazette" beginning in 1751, extracting pedigrees from stallion advertisements and race reports - the first person anywhere to make use of this source of primary evidence. Judge Gabriel Duval (1752-1844) contributed information from the 1752-1804 files of the "Maryland Gazette". Further pedigrees were sent in to the two periodicals by Thomas Marsh Forman (1758-1845) of Cecil County, Maryland; by William Williams (1776-1862) of Nashville, Tennessee; and by Allen Jones Davie of Halifax County, North Carolina. On the other hand, Edgar had neither the training, temperament nor experience to produce an authoritative Stud Book. While his work contains a vast amount of material which might otherwise have been lost, including the **Quarter Horses** raced in colonial times by his hosts' ancestors, it also included many horses designated "imported" who never crossed the Atlantic; many pedigrees whose extensions are manifestly impossible; and the omissions of a number of horses whose owners Edgar personally disliked, including even the premier sire Sir Archy!

The center of American racing and breeding, which from colonial times to about 1840 had been Virginia, thereafter moved to Kentucky, Tennessee and New Orleans. As a Kentuckian, Sanders D. Bruce was thoroughly familiar with pedigrees west of the Alleghenies, but in compiling Vols. I & II of the **American Stud Book**, being unsure of earlier seaboard ancestry, relied heavily on Edgar - for example he included 55 out of 61 "Famous American Quarter Running Horses" listed by Edgar. The National Sporting Library has a complete set of the "American Turf Register and Sporting Magazine" (1829-



From an engraving by Joseph Cone after the painting by Alvan Fisher published as the frontispiece to the April 1830 issue (Vol. I, No. 8) of the **American Turf Register and Sporting Magazine**, p. 369. Virginia, b.h. 1815, (Sir Archy-Meretrice, by Magog), raced 1818-1820 with outstanding success. Retired to stud in 1821.

1844) and the relevant years of the "American Farmer" (1819-29), as well as the 1828 and 1830 editions of *Masons Farrier*, published in Richmond, Virginia, by Peter Cottom, which contain George W. Jeffrey's above mentioned work (*Annals of the Turf by an Advocate for the Blood Horse*) plus, in the 1830 edition, an alphabetical list of the heretofore published pedigrees under the heading *American Stud Book*. It also has in originals or in microfilms, all the surviving colonial issues of the "Virginia Gazette" from 1736 to 1780 (with the Cappon Index); of the "New York" and "United States Sporting Magazine", March 1832 to August 1836, edited by Cadwalader Colden; and of the 3 weekly sporting magazines all entitled "The Spirit of the Times", 1831-1861, edited by William T. Porter, John Richards and George Wilkes. It also has a nearly complete file of the weekly "Turf, Field, and Farm", founded and edited by Sanders D. Bruce in 1866. To round out the relevant 19th century imprints, the N.S.L. has the *History of the South Carolina Jockey Club* by John B. Irving, 1857, which makes use of colonial Charleston newspapers, and the 5 volume *American Stallion Register* by Joseph Battell, collected 1884-1894, with many Thoroughbred stallion advertisements, particularly in New England, published 1909-1936. Thanks to the generosity of Mrs. Parker Poe, the excessively rare Vol. III of this work is being purchased in microfilm.

THE SAGE OF SCHUYLERVILLE

During the 20th century American early Thoroughbred research attained a plane entirely comparable to that inaugurated in England (1904-1938) by C.M. Prior. When working as a young man on the studfarm of his uncle, John L. O'Connor had become interested in extending Thoroughbred pedigrees. After founding the New York Electrical School, a great money maker, Mr. O'Connor, otherwise known as the "Sage of Schuylerville" (the site of his summer home) was able (1900-1905) to extend this interest by searching early newspapers for stallion advertisements, particularly in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and North Carolina, and, during the 1920's in South Carolina and Kentucky. He wrote a number of articles based on this material for magazines such as the "Thoroughbred Record". What he particularly relished, however, was to find some unsuspecting novice who had ventured into periodical print (erroneously) in the realm of Thoroughbred history. The Sage of Schuylerville would then compose a letter of refutation to be published in the next issue, detonating the big guns in the O'Connor historical arsenal and totally demolishing the unfortunate individual - no one ever crossed him twice!

During the mid 1920's Col. Louis Lee Haggin, a Thoroughbred breeder of Lexington, Kentucky, commissioned Mr. O'Connor to collect material on the Thoroughbred from early Kentucky newspapers. To this end the latter examined the "Kentucky Gazette" extracting stud advertisements, sales notices and accounts of race meetings from Feb. 16, 1788 to Oct.

26, 1826; "The Reporter" (in 1816 changed to "The Kentucky Reporter") from Mar. 12, 1808, to April 4, 1832; and "The Lexington Observer and Kentucky Reporter", from March 15, 1832 to Nov. 21, 1833. No newspapers were available for the years 1799, 1801, 1807 and 1817, while issues in other years were often scattered, but nevertheless Mr. O'Connor collected some 380 pages of material in small print, a great achievement and an absolutely essential source for the early history of the horse in Kentucky.


Col. Haggin turned over the O'Connor collection to the Transylvania Press of Lexington. What next transpired was told to the author by Harry Worcester Smith (1865-1945), famous as a steeplechase rider; as a Master of Foxhounds; as the author of *A Sporting Family of the Old South* dealing primarily with John Stuart Skinner and with his son Col. F.G. Skinner; and as a collector of the work of Edward Troye, the greatest equine portrait painter of the 19th century. The printing company apparently was unable to keep its promise to have the work in print and bound on a certain date, but had struck off five or six galley proofs. When Col. Haggin visited the printing office and was again informed that the book was not ready, he became incensed, picked up the proof sheets and told Transylvania to forget the whole thing. These proof sheets he then had bound in green cloth with a title page which reads "Notes on the Thoroughbred from Kentucky Newspapers - Compiled by John L. O'Connor - Privately printed by Louis Lee Haggin", (in 1927). None of the pages are numbered and there are no section headings. The author is fortunate to own the copy (now on loan to the National Sporting Library) which is inscribed "To Harry Worcester Smith, Master of Troye, Sincerely yours, Louis Lee Haggin" and contains Mr. Smith's book plate. While most of the contents concern Thoroughbreds, there is also much data on Arabians, Quarter Horses, Pacers, and other strains.

FAIRFAX HARRISON

At about this same time Fairfax Harrison of "Belvoir", Fauquier County, Virginia, was asked by the Virginia Historical Society to write, for publication in its magazine, an article on the English horses imported into Virginia before the Revolution, to which he gave the felicitous title "The Equine F.F.V.'s" (First Families of Virginia). Mr. Harrison was eminent as President of the Southern Railway; as a historian, promoter of the Virginia Historical Index, and author of *Landmarks of Old Prince William*, recognised as a model study of local history; and as a sportsman interest in steeplechasing, foxhunting and polo. He got the books together and produced a brilliant essay, a perfect example of his pungent and incisive style. Since this to him was new ground, however, he decided first to send the manuscript to Harry Smith whom he had known since the latter, as Master of the nearby Piedmont Hunt in 1905, had won the famous American vs. English Hound Match. Mr. Smith in turn

AMERICAN FARMER.

Sporting Olio.



FOX HUNTING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AMERICAN FARMER.

Sir—I am happy to see you are disposed to promote a taste for rural and field sports. Be assured, sir, that in proportion as you can excite a relish for such amusements amongst country gentlemen, and lay open such fields of entertainment for the leisure hours of the young gentlemen of the town, in that proportion, you put down drinking, gaming, gormandizing in cook shops and oyster cellars, and unsocial and pernicious debaucheries of various kinds. Anxious to aid you in what I believe will cheer the heart, liberalize the mind, and invigorate the constitution, I authorise you to offer to any gentleman or company of gentlemen, within striking distance of Baltimore, at least one dozen of very superior hounds, if they will promise to keep them well and hunt them well—I must have an answer within two weeks.

The first installment (January 21, 1825) of the first regular sports column published in North America. Written by John Stuart Skinner, founder (1819), publisher and editor of "The American Farmer," a weekly, Skinner was editor until March 12, 1830, when having founded (September, 1829) the monthly "American Turf Register and Sporting Magazine", he sold "The American Farmer." What we know today about early American Thoroughbred pedigrees rest mostly on the information published in these two periodicals.

* * *

sent the article to John O'Connor, who was no respecter of persons and had never heard of Fairfax Harrison. His reaction was to mail it back to the author, having written across the title page in red pencil; - "All wrong, kid, all wrong"; Mr. Harrison was not accustomed to be called either "kid" or "all wrong", and wired O'Connor, "What's wrong?" Back came the reply: "You have merely repeated the errors of your predecessors." Mr. Harrison then wrote a courteous letter asking how he could avoid repeating past errors which was countered by an invitation, next time he was in New York, to call on O'Connor.

Fairfax Harrison proved to be an apt pupil. He reduced the article to an irrefutable minimum which was published in the October, 1927, issue of the Virginia Historical Society's magazine. He used his experience as President of a major railroad system to recruit able assistants (G.E. Mauldin and R.A. Jackson) and his connections as a historian to locate and to get permission to copy every known file of early newspapers. Mr. O'Connor generously added his own files, so that a tremendous body of primary evidence as to early pedigrees was thus assembled. This data having been collated and indexed, Mr. Harrison took full advantage

of it. From 1928 to 1935 he produced seven volumes, certainly the most accurate and far reaching studies in existence on the background of any breed of livestock, brilliantly and entertainingly written. He enlarged his article "The Equine F.F.V.'s" into a volume of 184 pages (1928). Then came studies of three major studs in the three major racing colonies: **The Belair Stud, 1747-1761**, of Governor Samuel Ogle and Col. Benjamin Tasker, Jr., Maryland, (1929, 102 pages); **The Roanoke Stud, 1795-1833**, of John Randolph, Virginia (1930, 244 pages); and **The John's Island Stud, 1750-1788**, of Edward Fenwick, South Carolina (1931, 236 pages). Harrison in 1933 produced **The Background of the American Stud Book** (121 pages), a work comparable to C.M. Prior's 1926 publication on the English General Stud Book. Then came his magnum opus, the two volume **Early American Turf Stock 1730-1830, Being a critical study of the extant evidence for the English, Spanish, and Oriental Horses and Mares to which are traced the oldest American Turf Pedigrees**, Volume One (161) Mares (1934, 437 pages), Volume Two (359) Horses (1935, 613 pages). The seven octavo volumes are beautifully printed, handsomely and uniformly bound in red buckram, copiously illustrated with reproductions of contemporary paintings, engravings etc., and are amply indexed. Privately printed in very limited editions, they were bestowed by Mr. Harrison on those he considered worthy to own them. In the various prefaces he constantly gives credit to John L. O'Connor "for unflinching advice and encouragement and for access to his collections in print and MS", and is often specific, noting for example in **The Johns Island Stud**, that "in 1925, on a commission from him (O'Connor), Miss Elizabeth Jervey of Charleston identified and transcribed everything relating to the horse which was to be found in the extant S. Carolina newspapers from 1732 to 1800."

As for stallions and mares imported between 1730 and 1830, Fairfax Harrison, in his **Early American Turf Stock** completed the research required to make these entries in a revised **American Stud Book**. The 161 mares (Vol. I) and 359 stallions (Vol. II) are listed chronologically in accordance with their dates of importation. Each listing includes the date of importation, the name or names of the horse, the tail female figure number, the names of the owners on both sides of the Atlantic, the color, sex, foaling date and short pedigree. Next follows the volume and page reference to the horse in the **American Stud Book**, plus comment on the accuracy of the material there given. The documentary history of the horse and its pedigree is succeeded by a chronological list of its known whereabouts each year and an account of its get or produce.

We have already mentioned the many Quarter Horses listed by Edgar and accepted by Bruce. Fairfax Harrison, (**Roanoke Stud**, p. 225), noting Edgar's habit of identifying early Virginia stallions with horses in the English Racing Calendar and Stud Books, solely because of the similarity of names, lists 33 stallions said

by Edgar to have been imported, who actually never crossed the Atlantic - Bruce entered 31 of these, following Edgar. Conversely, in the two volumes of his **Early American Turf Stock** Harrison lists 43 and 45 imported English mares and stallions and 10 and 11 imported Spanish and Oriental mares and stallions, 109 in all, who were unknown to Bruce and should be entered in a revised American Stud Book. He also demonstrates that the pedigrees should be amended of 65 out of the remaining 108 imported mares and of 114 out of the remaining 304 imported stallions - 179 in all. Mr. Harrison points out the discrepancies with a formidable battery of adjectives, designating individual pedigrees as needing amendment, completion, compression, consolidation, development, interpretation, limitation, qualification, reconciliation, reconstruction, revision, simplification, and specification; noting that some are inconsistent or unconvincing; that others are marred by confusion, contradiction, duplication, errors or over-zealous extension; and that a few are unnecessarily doubtful, discredited by the evidence or altered at the source!!

The O'Connor - Harrison example was followed in 1916 by James Douglas Anderson, **Making the American Thoroughbred, Especially in Tennessee, 1800-1845**, who made use of advertisements in newspapers located in Nashville and in the American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, Mass.; and in 1948 by Alexander Mackay-Smith, **The Thoroughbred in the Lower Shenandoah Valley, 1785-1842**, based on advertisements collected from nine different newspapers published 1783 to 1842 in Winchester, Va., and from two newspapers each, published during the same period in Martinsburg and Charles Town, W. Va. This last volume contains a photograph of the printed prospectus headed "American Stud Book" mailed June 9, 1826, shortly before his death, by Theophilus Feild to Francis Beverley Whiting, a small Thoroughbred breeder living at "Clay Hill" near Millwood, Va. - a prospectus apparently unknown to Fairfax Harrison and other writers. The National Sporting Library has all the above texts.

CONCLUSION

The foregoing may well be fascinating to the student of Thoroughbred pedigrees and to the turf historian, but has it any practical application today - genetecists assure us that no ancestors anterior to great grand parents can have any influence on color, conformation, constitution, temperament, gaits, or performance? The 19th century revisions of Vol. I of the **English Stud Book** were published, not because they helped breeders to select the right stallions for their mares in 1858 and 1891, but because a Stud Book, by definition, must be an accurate record of pedigrees - no one, in good conscience, can assert its authority by arguing that it is perfectly all right to have it inaccurate in some aspects if it is accurate in others.

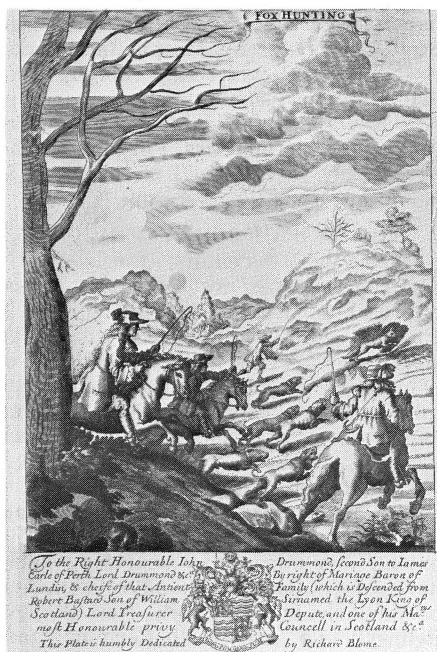
Nearly half a century has gone by since

Prior and Harrison not only pointed the way, but also, by their brilliant scholarship, made infinitely more possible the badly needed revisions of Vol. I of the **General Stud Book** (1891) and of Vols. I & II (1873) of the **American Stud Book**. All the requisite tools are in the National Sporting Library - only needed are the personnel and the funds to carry out these two essential projects so that our Thoroughbred Stud Books will be beyond criticism.

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GIFTS TO THE NATIONAL SPORTING LIBRARY

Since the publication of our last Newsletter (June 1976) the National Sporting Library has received substantial financial support as well as gifts of books, pictures, and periodicals from Mrs. Jack Averett, Mr. Gordon Barton, Mr. William Brainard, the Chronicle of the Horse, Mr. Daniel T. Cox, Mr. Peter Devers, Mrs. Murray Horowitz, Mr. Walter Jeffords, the Jockey Club, Mrs. Sterling Larrabee, Mr. Alexan-



British Foxhunting, published by Richard Blome 1686 in "The Gentleman's Recreation." Courtesy of the British Museum. A copy of the second edition (1710) has recently been presented to the N.S.L. by Thomas Marston, one of the Directors of the library.

der Mackay-Smith, Mrs. Jane McClary, Mr. Forrest Mars, Mr. Thomas Marston, the Masters of Foxhounds Association of America, Mr. Paul Mellon, Mrs. Marie Moore, Mr. George Ohrstrom, Mr. Robert Patterson, Mr. Harry Peters, Jr., Mrs. Parker Poe, Mr. Steven Price, Mr. James Scharnberg, Mrs. George Cole Scott, and Mrs. Sidney Smith.

Special mention should be made of Mr. Jefford's gift of photographs of Troye and

Continued

Delattre works from his collection; early records and photographs of the Old Dominion Hounds, founded in 1924, from Mrs. Sterling Larabee; Thoroughbred pedigree statistics from the research of Mr. Forrest Mars; Deluxe editions of Derrydale Press books from the collection of Mr. Robert Patterson; a print and painting of "Dutchman" by Troye on loan from Mr. Harry Peters, Jr.; several rare manuscripts of early hound lists of English hunts; and a 1710 edition of Blome's *Gentlemen's Recreations* from Mr. Thomas Marston. Through the generosity of Mrs. Parker Poe the Library is now in a position to reproduce two excessively rare but nonetheless essential books, namely: *Notes on the Thoroughbred From Early Kentucky Newspapers* by John L. O'Connor and Volume III of the *American Stallion Register* by Joseph Battell.

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MARKHAM AND MASON; TWO POPULAR FARRIERY TEXTS IN 18th AND 19th CENTURY AMERICA

Perhaps the most prolific writer of all time on the greatest variety of equine subjects was the 17th century Englishman Gervase Markham. In the field of farriery (veterinary medicine) alone there were published in London under his name: - "A cure for all Diseases of Horses" in 1610 (subsequent editions in 1616, 1623, 1641); "Markham's Maister-Peece, containing all knowledge belonging to the Smith, Farrier, or Horse-leech, touching the Curing of all Diseases of Horses", in 1615 (eleven subsequent editions, 1636-1723); "The Faithful Farier, discovering some secrets not in print before", in 1635 (subsequent editions 1638, 1649); and "The Gentlemans Jockey and approved Farrier" in 1681 (subsequent editions 1638, 1687, 1717, 1722). Also attributed to him is "The Horsemans Honour — With the true, easie, cheape, and most approved manner, how to know and cure all diseases in any Horse whatsoever" London, 1620.

During the 17th and 18th centuries the American colonists faithfully doctored their horses according to Markham's texts which were frequently reprinted in England, with or without credit to the author. Markham is also responsible for the first veterinary book published before the Revolution in this country, namely:

"The citizen and countryman's experienced farrier. Containing, I. The most best approved method of ordering, dieting, exercising, purging, scouring, and cleansing of horses: Also choice restoratives to chear the heart, procure an appetite, and to clear the lungs and pipes, so as to strengthen wind, and give large breath to the running of race-horse. II. A certain sure method to know the true state of any horse's body, as to sickness or health. III. The true shape of a horse explained: with

choice directions for buying. IV. An experienced and approved method of raising of horses, as to ordering, keeping, &c. Also mares, colts and stallions. V. A sure and certain rule to know the age of any horse, from one year to ten, with good observations as he further advance in years. VI. The best and experienced way of keeping the common hackney, or hunting horse, so as to keep him lively, chear-ful, free from colds, strains, wind-gulls, and gross humours. VII. An approved method of purging, bleeding and feeding cattle; with choice approved receipts for the diseases they are incident to; with signs to know the diseases, and directions for the use of medicines. To all which is added, a valuable and fine collection of the surest and best receipts in the known world for the cure of all maladies and distempers that are incident to horses of what kind soever, with directions to know what is the ailment, or disease. By F. Markham, G. Jefferies, and discreet indians. London, Printed; —and, Wilmington, re-printed, and sold by James Adams, at his printing-office, 1764."

The book was edited by John Millis, but history does not reveal the identity of the "Discreet Indians". There were later editions - Baltimore, Maryland, 1797, 1798, 1803, and Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, 1839, 1840, 1841. In the last four editions the Indians were "experienced" rather than "discreet".

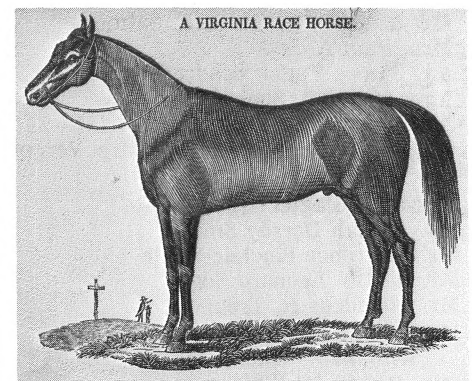
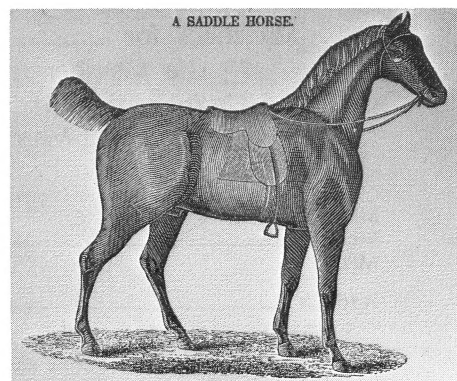
The enormous popularity for well over two centuries of Markham's texts, long outdated, was finally superseded in the United States by a work of Richard Mason, a Doctor of (human) Medicine, who lived in Surry County, Virginia. Published in 1811 in Petersburg, Virginia, "Printed by John Dickson, Bollingbrook Street", the title reads: "The Gentleman's New Pocket Companion; Comprising a General Description of the Noble and Useful Animal The Horse; Together with the Quickest and Simplest Mode of Fattening; Necessary Treatment While Undergoing Excessive Fatigue, or on a Journey; The Construction and Management of Stables; Different Marks for Ascertaining the Age of a Horse, from Three to Nine Years Old. With a concise account of the Diseases, to which the Horse is most subject; with such remedies as long experience has proven to be effectual".

At the end of the book is a list of subscribers arranged under the localities

where they lived which includes William Ransom Johnson, known as "The Napoleon of the Turf", of Warren County, North Carolina, and Patrick Nisbett Edgar of Greenville County, Virginia, later to become famous as the author of "The American, race-turf register, sportsman's herald and general stud book", published 1833 in New York.

The book also contained four illustrations, engraved by Benjamin Tanner (1775-1848) of Philadelphia, two of which are reproduced herewith, the frontispiece "A Saddle Horse, and "A Virginia Race Horse". Petersburg was then the principal city in what was known as "The Old Race Horse Region", the counties on either side of the Virginia-North Carolina border. In 1811 this section was famous for its Saddle Horses, descendants of the colonial Quarter Horse, and for its distance Thoroughbred race horses - this was the year in which were produced the first foals by SIR ARCHY, (imported DIOMED-imported CASTIANIRA), then standing at Allen Jones Davie's New Hope plantation, Halifax County, North Carolina, who shortly was to establish himself as the greatest sire of race horses in the first half of the century. The "Saddle Horse" engraving shows the heavy muscling, powerful loins and short back characteristic not only of 18th century pacing "Quarter Running Horse", ancestor of the 19th century laterally gaited Saddle Horse, but also of the modern Quarter Horse. The "Virginia Race Horse" engraving admirably illustrates the differences in conformation between the two breeds.

Mason's "Farrier" went on to become the most popular book of its kind during the first half of the 19th century. Robert W. Henderson in his check-list "Early American Sport" (1953) sets forth 25 printings between 1811 and 1858. Furthermore the 4th and 5th editions, published 1828 and 1830 by Peter Cottom in Richmond, Virginia, and subsequent editions contained "Annals of the Turf" by George W. Jeffreys, and "The American (Thoroughbred) Stud Book", the latter being the earliest example of an alphabetical stud book of any kind published in America. The significance of these last two sections as foundation material for the "American Stud Book", the official publication of the Jockey Club, is discussed elsewhere in this issue.



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HILLTOPPING

By Bob Lee Maddux, Cookeville, Tenn.,
 3rd edition, 1976, pp. 79

Hilltopping is a term applied to following foxhounds not by riding up to them on horseback, but at a distance, from the tops of hills commanding a wide view of the countryside in which foxes are hunted, or from similar vantage points, including the fires of the hunters by night, built on ridges from which hounds can be heard for long distances and at points where they are known to cross regularly when hunted by hounds. Bob Lee Maddux for more than fourscore years has hilltopped with his Walker foxhounds, not only in his Tennessee home country, but also with other fox hunters in other states. Over 40 years ago he began contributing to the monthly magazine devoted primarily to field trial hounds "The Hunter's Horn". On September 10, 1951, with a foreword by the Editor, E. E. Everett, the magazine issued Mr. Maddux' previously published letters and articles in a 19 page printed collection entitled, "Hilltopping", now excessively rare. In 1975 the author's fox hunting nephew, Sid Maddux, published these and additional Bob Maddux material in a quarto of 73 pages, reproducing typescript. Because this omitted a few articles, a 3rd and definitive edition of 79 pages, in the same format, was published in 1976, the edition under review.

There are 30 articles and letters in all, the first from "The Hunters Horn" of December, 1936, entitled "Foxhunting in Tennessee", the last from the issue of April, 1971, entitled "Puddin, a Great Patch". Included are essays which have become classic, such as "Hunters and Hounds 'round the 'Hero Stove'; 'Old Line Walker Hounds'; 'The Character Witness Dead'", and so forth. In his foreword Sid Maddux says: "Uncle Bob writes as he talks and to read him is to listen to him. As I read I'm back around the fire with all the other hunters, swapping stories and waiting for the dogs to come back within hearing. Foxhunting, hill country style, is so much more than a fox and a pack of hounds. At the very heart of this sport are the friendships that are so strong and lasting that the outsider is often baffled. It is all here — all the wry good humor and the tenderness. Thank you Uncle Bob."